



MORE KINGDOM LABORERS

Forge exists to expand God's Kingdom by challenging and equipping people around the globe to fully devote their lives to Jesus and to live lives of active ministry:
Hearts on Fire. Lives on Purpose.

Forge Firebrand Training Program Manual

Firebrand Program Objectives:

Training up the Next Generation of Itinerant Speakers

Forge has been traveling and preaching for over 30 years as an organization, and has over 300 years of combined speaking experience. We believe that part of Jesus' unique style of ministry was journeying from place to place (itinerant ministry), sharing the good news of the Kingdom and sparking movements of disciples to live with hearts on fire and lives on purpose.

- Provide apprenticeship through mentoring, training and guidance so participants will develop the character and skills, that will sustain an itinerant speaker ministry over the long haul
- Provide apprenticeship through mentoring, training and guidance for participants to design the tools that will refine the Itinerant Speaker as communicator of God's Message and expand their opportunities
- Facilitate holistic growth which overflows from a heart shaped by God
- Develop unique gifting and skillsets
- Discern ministry calling and itinerant ministry fit
- Launch participants into a lifestyle of itinerant ministry that raises up more Kingdom laborers around the world

Firebrand Program Required Involvement

This is the list of the required participation in the program:

1. Launch Assignments
2. Attending Intensives (Eight minimum Nine recommended)
3. Conference Calls (20 per year)
4. 3 Domestic Trips with Forge Itinerant Speakers.
5. 1 International Trip with Forge Itinerant Speaker(s)
6. Fulfillment of All Assignments
7. Graduation Project

1. Launch Assignments

- A. Read “You Are God’s Plan A, and There Is No Plan B” by Dwight Robertson and discuss with Firebrand Director.
- B. Read “It’s My Turn” by Forge and discuss with Firebrand Director.
- C. Read “Glorious Finish” by Daniel Henderson and discuss with Firebrand Director.
- D. Participate in Forge Firebrand onboarding training & ministry overview meetings at your first intensive.
- E. Submit information requested by Forge (for website, email, etc.)
- F. *You will be recognized as an official Forge Firebrand upon acceptance into the program (after applying) and completion of Launch Assignments!

2. Attending Intensives (Eight minimum Nine recommended)

- A. Duration of Intensives: One Week (Monday - Friday)
- B. Mostly held at Basecamp, some at previously agreed upon locations
- C. Preaching Labs will take place during Intensives to provide practice and feedback.
- D. Typical Yearly Intensives: First week of February, Third week of April, Last week of June (Deep Camp), First week of October

3. Conference Calls (20 per year)

- A. Conference Calls Content will correlate with content and activities shared during Intensives to provide a sense of continuity throughout the program.
- B. A. Purpose of Conference Calls:
 1. Pray together.
 2. To discuss readings (books, articles, etc.); and other assigned materials.

3. Study and discuss topics of personal life and ministry.
- C. Participants will share content with the team and will be evaluated.
- D. Forge Itinerant Speakers will be invited to join calls and share with the team.

4. Domestic Trips & International Trips with Forge Itinerant Speakers

- A. While traveling with Forge Itinerant Speakers, Firebrands will have the opportunity to learn firsthand from Itinerant Speakers the different skills on and off the stage that sustain an Itinerant Ministry over the long haul.
- B. Firebrands will have the opportunity to connect with individuals and ministries, opening doors for future ministry – for themselves and for Forge.
- C. If opportunities are available Firebrands will share speaking responsibilities.
- D. Firebrands will have the opportunity to provide prayer and help on location to lead summer training programs (Deep Camp, Surge, Experience, Smoky Mountain Outreach, others)

Firebrand Responsibilities After traveling with Forge Itinerant Speakers

- A. Itinerant Speakers will be asked to provide feedback on Firebrands (by filling out a form).
- B. Firebrands will be required to report on their experiences on location with Speakers (3 Pages Paper).

5. Fulfillment of Assignments

- A. Firebrands must fulfill assignments at deadline or before. If extra time is needed it will need to be authorized by Program Director.
- B. Readings can be fulfilled ahead of time based on the assignments calendar included in this Program Manual (see below).

6. Graduation Project

Because Firebrand Training Program will also provide training on developing communication skills beyond public speaking, Firebrands will be required to prepare a graduation project with the following characteristics:

A. Phase 1:

1. Prepare a sermon series (topical or based on a passage, group of passages or sequential portions of the Scripture) that you would use on the road. It will be reviewed by Firebrand Program Director and Forge leadership.

2. Define a Target Audience: Children, Youth, Young Adults, Adults, Elderly, etc.

B. Phase 2:

1. Prepare one or more resources for the sermon series (from Phase One). Resources such as:
 - a. Study Guides, Booklet(s), Website, Videos, Animation, Blogs, etc.
 - b. Specifics to each of these resources will be discussed with participants at appropriate time.
 - c. These resources may be included in Forge catalogue although is not guaranteed by the program.

Forge Firebrand Conference Calls

The following Conference Call calendar was designed to secure interaction among Forge Itinerant Speakers and Firebrands, and to provide mentoring on specific areas of preaching.

2021 Calls (The program will follow this pattern going forward - 2 Calls per month):

	Individual / Personal Call with Firebrand Program Director (week of...)	Team Conference Call with Guest Itinerant Speaker	Team Conference Call with Firebrand Program Director
January	Jan 11- 15	Jan 25	
Winter Intensive January 30 – February 6			
February		Feb 22	
March	Mar 22 - 26	Mar 8	
April		April 5	
Spring Intensive April 19 – 23			
May		May 3	May 17
June	Summer Training Programs		
Firebrand Intensive /Deep Camp June 27 – July 2			
July		July 26	July 19
August	Aug 9 - 13	Aug 23	
Fall Intensive September 13 – 17			
October		Oct 18	Oct 4
November	Nov 1 - 5	Nov 15	29
December		13	

Typical Yearly Intensives:

- First week of February
- Third week of April
- Last week of June (Deep Camp)
- First week of October

Forge Firebrand Year “A” Assignments

	Winter Module	Spring Module	Summer Module	Fall Module
Learn for Yourself	Personalized Assignment	Personalized Assignment	Personalized Assignment	Personalized Assignment
Learn from Contemporary Forge Speakers	Watch and Listen 3 messages by Contemporary Speakers and list 3 things you learn from their speaking skills or content	Watching Messages and Connecting with: Selected Forge Speakers	Watching Messages and Connecting with: Selected Forge Speakers	Watching Messages and Connecting with: Selected Forge Speakers
Learn from Past & Present Speakers (Reading)	<p>“None Greater” by Matthew Barrett</p> <p>“The Master Plan of Evangelism” By Robert Coleman</p> <p>“Heroes of the Faith” by Gene Fedele OR</p> <p>“Found Faithful” by Elizabeth Skoglund</p>	<p>“A Passion for Souls: The Life of D.L. Moody” by Lyle Dorsett</p> <p>“The Heavenly Man” by Brother Yun</p>	<p>“Palau: A Life on Fire” by Luis Palau</p> <p>“Hudson’s Taylor Spiritual Secret” by Dr. & Mrs. Howard Taylor</p>	<p>“Just as I am” by Billy Graham</p> <p>“Impact Preaching, a case for one point messages” by Michael Kuykendall, David Johnson, R. Gregg Watson), & Jim Wilson</p>
Preaching Lab	Record a “Intimacy with God Message”	Record a Message of your own choosing. Record a Missions Message	Record a Message of own choosing. Record a Hearts on Fire Message.	Record a “Set the Standard” Message
Others	Share the gospel with one random person each day for one week (in-person) -2 short Forge Devos	Interview your last three hosts and ask for 5 things you can improve as Itinerant Speaker. Pray with them. -2 short Forge Devos	Make a list with 5 items of the things you learned from each biography and explain why you think they are important to your life & ministry. -2 short Forge Devos	Write a 5 pages Paper on Lessons learned from Contemporary and Present Speakers during the past year -2 short Forge Devos
Due Date	By next intensive	By next intensive	By next intensive	By next intensive

Forge Firebrand Year “B” Assignments

	Winter Module	Spring Module	Summer Module	Fall Module
Learn for Yourself	Personalized Assignment	Personalized Assignment	Personalized Assignment	Personalized Assignment
Learn from Contemporary Forge Speakers	Set up an Interview or personal Q&A Session with one of Forge’s Itinerant Speakers	Watch and Listen 5 messages by Contemporary Speakers and list 3 things you learn from their speaking skills or content	Watch a Message from and Connect with one of the following Forge Speakers: Selected Forge Speakers	Watch a Message from and Connect with one of the following Forge Speakers: Selected Forge Speakers
Learn from Past & Present Speakers (Reading)	“Bonhoeffer Abridged” by Eric Metaxas “Why Revival Tarries” by Leonard Ravenhill “Humility” by Andrew Murray OR “Humility: True Greatness” by CJ Mahaney (Choose one)	“The Man Christ Jesus!” by Bruce A. Ware “The Radical Wesley” by Howard Snyder “Forged by Fire” by Dwight Robertson	“Religious Experience and Journal of Mrs. Jarena Lee, Giving an Account of Her Call to Preach the Gospel” by Jarena Lee The Apostle: The Life of Paul, by John Pollock “Training for Trainers” by Ying & Grace Kai	“Touch the World Through Prayer” OR “Mighty Prevailing Prayer” by Wesley Duewel (choose one) “The Supremacy of God in Preaching” by John Piper “Baton Passing Relationships” Forge booklet by Dwight Robertson
Preaching Lab	Record a “Set the Standard” Message Record a Laborers (“Plan A”) Message	Record a Sin Message Record a message of your choosing	Record a Salvation/Surrender Message Record an “Intimacy with God” Message	Record a Sanctification/Growth Message Record a message of your choosing
Others	Lead a small group on a “It’s My Turn” Forge book study. 5 Sessions Minimum -2 short Forge Devos	Find a person to read with and discuss one of the books assigned for this module (4 sessions) -2 short Forge Devos	Interview your last four hosts and ask for 5 things you can improve as Itinerant Speaker. Pray with them. -2 short Forge Devos	Preach the Gospel in a public place (“open air”). Partner with a team/musicians to help you. -2 short Forge Devos
Due Date	By next intensive	By next intensive	By next intensive	By next intensive

Forge Firebrand Year “C” Assignments

	Winter Module	Spring Module	Summer Module	Fall Module
Learn for Yourself	Personalized Assignment	Personalized Assignment	Personalized Assignment	Personalized Assignment
Learn from Contemporary Forge Speakers	Set up an Interview or personal Q&A Session with one of Forge’s Itinerant Speakers	Watch a Message from and Connect with one of the following Forge Speakers: Selected Forge Speakers	Watch and Listen 5 messages by Contemporary Speakers and list 3 things you learn from their speaking skills or content	Set up an Interview or personal Q&A Session with one of Forge’s Itinerant Speakers
Learn from Past & Present Speakers (Reading)	<p>“No Compromise: The Life Story of Keith Green” by Melody Green</p> <p>“A Time for Remembering: The Story of Ruth Bell Graham” by Patricia Cornwell (Spouse must also read and discuss with you, if married)</p>	<p>“A Tale of Three Kings” by Gene Edwards</p> <p>“5 Minutes in Church History” by Stephen J Nichols</p> <p>“Practicing God’s Presence” by Brother Lawrence</p>	<p>“Church Membership: How the World Knows Who Represents Jesus” by Jonathan Leeman</p> <p>“The Case of Christ” by Lee Strobel OR “More Than A Carpenter” by Josh McDowell (Choose one)</p> <p>“Now What” Forge booklet by Forge Press</p>	<p>“The Homiletical Plot” by Eugene Lowry</p> <p>“Discipled by Jesus” by Robert Gelinias</p> <p>“Gospel Patrons” by John Rinehart</p> <p>“The Mark of a Christian” by Francis Schaeffer</p>
Preaching Lab	Record a Mission Message	Record a “Set the Standard” Message	Record a Sin Message	Record a Salvation/Surrender Message
Others	Find a person to read with and discuss one of the books assigned for this module (4 sessions) -2 short Forge Devos	Reading the book of Jonah 24 times, answering the questionnaires to each stage, and preparing a message on Jonah -2 short Forge Devos	Lead a small group on “Now What?” Forge booklet study. 3 Sessions Minimum -2 short Forge Devos	Preach the Gospel in a public place (“open air”). Partner w/ a team/musicians to help you. Interview your last three hosts and ask for 5 things you can improve as Itinerant Speaker. Pray with them. -2 short Forge Devos
Due Date	By next intensive	By next intensive	By next intensive	By next intensive

Credits Awarded by Activity and Assignment Fulfilled

	Credits	Demerits	Demerits	Notes
Intensives and Webinar Attendance	25%	Demerits for attending late 5%	Demerits for leaving early late 5%	For Example, if a Firebrand shows up a day after the Intensive starts or leaves a day early, they will not gain that intensive credit
Interaction with Speakers Activities	30%	Activity not totally completed 10%	Activity completed out of time 10%	
Recording of Messages	15%	Activity not totally completed 5%	Activity completed out of time 5%	May be fulfilled in advance
Book Reading, Writing of Response Papers, Learn for yourself and Others	20%	Activity completed out of time 5%		May be fulfilled in advance
Attending Conference Calls	10%	Demerits for attending late 5% (5 minutes)	Demerits for leaving early 5% (5 minutes)	For Example, if a Firebrand shows up 5+ minutes late or leaves 5+ minutes before the end time, they will not gain credit for that call

Additional Program Commitment

Outside of the commitment required for time and assignments as listed above, these are other commitments required by the program:

- **Financial** – see the Financial Memo of Understanding (below)
- **Relational** – We expect you to be relationally connected to our staff, speakers, and other Firebrands. This helps battle the ministry malady of isolation, will make you a better minister and speaker, and more connected to the heart and mission of Forge.
- **Participation** – We expect that you will be a part of all the scheduled events and activities. You cannot be mentored and apprenticed if you are not present. See below for how credit will be applied based on participation.
- **Organizational** – We expect you to represent Forge as a Firebrand by telling others about the things God does in and through this ministry as well as sharing about ministry opportunities through Forge (Speakers, Training, Resources, etc.) / recruiting people for training
- **Exclusivity** – Firebrands are required to grant Forge an exclusive booking agreement for all speaking while in the program. That means all events must go through Forge and that anyone who wants you to come speak will need to connect with Forge before getting you to their event. Point potential hosts to go to ForgeSpeakers.com and click inquire for booking.

Firebrand Memo of Financial Understanding

- Participant will either raise 100% of funding for participation in the program or will cover the costs of the program out-of-pocket. These include the following:
 - All housing and travel to and from Firebrand Intensives and other events required during the Firebrand Program. Forge will work to keep these costs at a minimum.
 - Costs for all training materials (books, binders, supplies, notes, etc.) that are used during the program.
- If desired, Participant may raise additional money to receive income during the program. Participants who “Forge Firebrand Job Description” responsibilities will be paid monthly on the last business day of the month based upon the amount of funds available (after expenses needed for program) in their support account. (Proceeds from speaking events and fundraising will make up the funds available in Firebrand’s support account.)
 - For those fundraising, Forge will help participant set fundraising goals and estimated program costs.
 - *Request to see Staff Firebrand Job Description document for details
- An invoice listing intensive expenses will be given to participants for each Intensive. Invoice will need to be paid the week of the intensive.
- Forge will assess a 25% booking fee for events booked in which Firebrand receives an honorarium.
- If married, Participant’s spouse will be required to participate in part of one intensive (to meet the team) as well as one Deep Camp (to experience Forge’s DNA & vision) during the program. Firebrand Participant will be required to cover the intensive costs and transportation to intensive for spouse.

I, _____, have read and understand the financial arrangement options available to all Firebrand Participants.

Signature

Date

Firebrand Graduation Process & Becoming a Forge Speaker

Firebrands may complete the program within 2 years and may delay up to 4 years (but not longer to remain an active part of the Firebrand team). If delaying to 4 years, a Firebrand must attend at least 2 intensives per year (not Deep Camp) and at least 2 total Deep Camps in the entire 4 years. Whether, graduating in 2 years, 3 years, or 4 years, Firebrands must complete all assignments listed in this program manual. Participants who complete the entirety of the program will be equipped to be itinerant speakers and ministers.

Once all program requirements have been completed, the Firebrand will be reviewed by the Firebrand program review committee. Those who have positively completed all requirements will then have a graduation celebration at their last scheduled intensive occurring before Deep Camp. The Firebrand will choose their “best message” to preach at the graduation celebration. Family and friends are invited to watch online or attend in person (all graduations will likely be held at Forge basecamp).

In addition, program graduates may apply and be reviewed to become Forge Speakers, if that is the direction they desire to move forward with. Before a decision is made, Forge leadership will review feedback received throughout the program regarding the Firebrand, review various assignments, pray, and seek the Lord. Forge speakers will also review the Firebrand’s final message preached at their graduation celebration to give further input. Then a decision will be made and the Firebrand will be notified. If they are invited to join the Forge Speaker team, they will be publicly and officially announced at the next Deep Camp!

*There is no guarantee of future employment or participation on Forge’s Speaker team for Firebrand program participants. Forge’s goals for the Firebrand Program include the discernment of participants’ gifting’s and callings so that they effectively be launched into the ministry that best suits them. A participant will not necessarily complete the training if it is discerned that his/her calling and gifting is better suited in another ministry setting.

Other Forge Recommended Readings (Not Required) To Enhance Your Ministry

Biography:

- Remembering Billy Graham *Christianity Today* Article Collection: <https://www.christianitytoday.com/ct/2018/billy-graham/died-billy-graham-obituary.html>
- A Prophet with Honor: The Billy Graham Story by William Martin
- D.L. Moody - A Life by Kevin Belmonte
- D.L. Moody on Spiritual Leadership by Steve Miller
- Snowshoe Itinerant by John Dyer
- Shadow of the Almighty by Elizabeth Eliot
- Foxes Book of Martyrs
- Walking With the Saints by Calvin Miller
- Ct Studd: No Retreat by Bengé
- A Sharpened Arrow, by Ian Taylor
- John Owen Prince of Puritans by Andrew Thompson
- J. Hudson Taylor, A Man In Christ by Roger Steer
- Hudson Taylor and Maria, by John Pollock

Prayer, Warfare, & Engaging Others:

- The Billy Graham Christian Workers Handbook
- Revival Fire by Wesley Duewel
- Born for Battle by Arthur Matthews
- Freedom Tools by Andy Reese and Jennifer Barnett
- Red Moon Rising by Dave Roberts and Pete Greig
- A Resilient Life: You Can Move Ahead No Matter What, by Gordon MacDonald
- The Cross Centered Life, by C.J. Mahaney

Preaching:

- The Sermons of George Whitefield (Hendrickson Publishers)
- Biblical Preaching by Haddon Robinson
- Preaching by Timothy Keller
- Between Two Worlds by John Stott
- Jesus On Every Page by David Murray
- Preaching Sticky Sermons, by Brandon Kelly
- Preaching: Communicating Faith in an Age of Skepticism
- Anointed Expository Preaching, by Stephen Olford
- Grasping God's Word, by J. Scott Duvall & J. Daniel Hays

Paradigm & Understanding:

- Laboring In the Harvest by Leroy Eims
- Stubborn Perseverance by James Nyman
- Primal Fire by Neil Cole
- Let the Nations Be Glad by John Piper
- Daring to Live on the Edge by Loren Cunningham
- Living in the Light of Eternity by Paula and Stacy Rinehart
- With by Skye Jethani
- Let God Guide You Daily by Wesley Duewel
- The Training of the Twelve, by A.B. Bruce
- Money, Possessions, and Eternity, By Randy Alcorn